

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4586
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 WARSAW 3274

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR PL SW
SUBJ: VISIT OF SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER TO POLAND

REF: STOCKHOLM 1444

1. SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER THORBJOERN FAELLDIN VISITED POLAND
APRIL 12 - 15 AT THE INVITATION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE POLISH COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS PIOTR JAROSZEWICZ. INCLUDED IN FAELLDIN'S PARTY
WERE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY NILS G. AASLING, CHIEF OF THE PRIME
MINISTER'S OFFICE GOESTA GUNNARSON, VICE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
GUNNAR SOEDER, AND DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE FOREIGN
BIRGIT RABAEUS.

2. DURING HIS STAY, FAELLDIN PAID A CALL ON FCTST SECRETARY OF
THE POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY (PZPR) EDWARD GIEREK AND MET
BRIEFLY WITH CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE HENRYK JABLONSKI.
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IN ADDITION, HE TOURED WARSAW AND KRAKOW, VISITED POLAND'S MOST
MODERN STEEL MILL, THE "HUTA KATOWICE" IN SILESIA, AND PAID
HOMAGE TO THE VICTIMS OF NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMPS AT OSWIECIM
(AUSCHWITZ).

3. THE PLENARY TALKS BETWEEN POLISH AND SWEDISH LEADERS WERE
THE CENTERPIECE OF FAELLDIN'S VISIT. BESIDES JAROSZEWICZ,

FRANCISZEK KAIM, VICE PREMIER AND MINISTER OF THE METALLURGICAL INDUSTRY, EMIL WOJTASZEK, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WLODZIMIERZ LEJCZAK, MINISTER OF MINING, AND ALEKSANDER KOPEC, MINISTER OF MACHINE INDUSTRY, WERE THE OTHER HIGH LEVEL POLISH PARTICIPANTS. THE MOST IMPORTANT RESULT OF THESE TALKS WAS A FIVE YEAR TRADE AGREEMENT WHICH, ACCORDING TO TRYBUNA LUDU OF APRIL 14, "CONFIRMS THE DETERMINED WILL OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO PROVIDE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR A FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND TRADE". IN THE AGREEMENT, BOTH GOVERNMENTS "PLEDGED TO REDUCE AND GRADUALLY ELIMINATE TRADE BARRIERS", CONFIRMED RECIPROCAL MOST FAVORED NATION TREATMENT, "EXPRESSED THEIR READINESS TO FACILITATE MEETINGS AND EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION AMONG ORGANIZATIONS, ENTERPRISES, AND FIRMS CONNECTED WITH FOREIGN TRADE", AND ESTABLISHED A MIXED COMMISSION TO OVERSEE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT.

4. A SHORT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE VISIT LISTED THE SWEDISH GUESTS, REVIEWED FAELLDIN'S ITINERARY, AND SUMMARIZED THE CONTENT OF THE PLENARY TALKS WHICH TOOK PLACE "IN THE TRADITIONALLY FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE". THE COMMUNIQUE INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. MILITARY DETENTE SHOULD COMPLEMENT POLITICAL DETENTE. CONCRETE STEPS IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN;

B. FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRINCIPLES AND DECISIONS OF
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THE CSCE FINAL ACT IS OF "GREAT IMPORTANCE";

C. THE STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS IS SATISFACTORY. THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION IN ALL AREAS, ESPECIALLY IN THE BALTIC, IS DESIRABLE. THE FIVE-YEAR TRADE TREATY SIGNED DURING THE VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER FAELLDIN IS A CONCRETE REALIZATION OF THE INTENTION TO IMPROVE BILATERAL COOPERATION.

5. SWEDISH AMBASSADOR CARL RAPPE HAS GIVEN US A RUNDOWN ON THE VISIT, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS "ON THE WHOLE, VERY SUCCESSFUL". HE SAID THE POLES WENT ALL OUT TO ASSURE SUCCESS, BOTH SUBSTANTIVE AND LOGISTICALLY. AS A RESULT, THE VISIT STRENGTHENED FURTHER THE ALREADY-EXISTING GOOD TIES BETWEEN SWEDEN AND POLAND. IN FACT, MOST OF THE TALKS CENTERED ON BILATERAL RELATIONS, SOMEWHAT TO THE SURPRISE OF THE SWEDES.

6. THE CHIEF BILATERAL ISSUE DEALT WITH POLISH-BORN JEWS, NOW CITIZENS OF SWEDEN, WHO HAVE BEEN DENIED RE-ENTRY INTO POLAND. FAELLDIN BROUGHT THIS UP WITH BOTH JAROSZEWICZ AND GIEREK, BOTH OF WHOM TRIED TO DEFLECT IT WITH NON-COMMITAL REPLIES. FAELLDIN PERSISTED, HOWEVER, AND FINALLY GOT A PROMISE OUT OF THE TWO POLISH LEADERS THAT REASONS WOULD BE GIVEN IN FUTURE CASES OF

DENIALS. AMBASSADOR RAPPE WAS NOT SURE HOW VALUABLE THIS CONCESSION MIGHT BE IN PRACTICE, BUT HE FELT IT REPRESENTED SOME PROGRESS. (COMMENT: GIVEN THE POLES' REFUSAL "ON PRINCIPLE" TO GIVE US REASONS FOR PASSPORT AND VISA DENIALS SO FAR, THIS COULD BE A USEFUL PRECEDENT FOR US. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE COMMITMENT RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY IN THE SWEDISH PRESS. END COMMENT).

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7. PRIME MINISTER KAEULDIN ALSO RAISED THE SUBJECT OF SWEDISH DIVIDED FAMILY CASES WITH BOTH JAROSZEWICZ AND GIEREK, BUT NO PROGRESS WAS MADE ON THIS ISSUE, IN GENERAL OR ON ANY SPECIFIC CASES. TO THE CONTRARY, WHEN KAEULDIN TALKED WITH JAROSZEWICZ ABOUT SWEDEN'S MOST DIFFICULT AND LONGSTANDING DIVIDED FAMILY CASE, INVOLVING AN ELDERLY POLISH MAN OF JEWISH BACKGROUND MARRIED TO A FORMER POLE NOW A SWEDISH CITIZEN (COMMENT: THE SWEDISH EQUIVALENT TO OUR KENNEDY-STROJEK CASE. END COMMENT), JAROSZEWICZ PLEADED TOTAL IGNORANCE EVEN OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE CASE. THE SWEDES CONSIDERED JAROSZEWICZ'S RESPONSE TOTALLY UNSATISFACTORY, ESPECIALLY SINCE SWEDEN'S MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE, JAN-ERIK WIKSTROM, DISCUSSED THIS SPECIFIC CASE IN DETAIL WITH THE PRIME MINISTER DURING HIS VISIT TO WARSAW IN OCTOBER 1977.

8. ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT, THE POLES SOUGHT MORE COOPERATION BETWEEN SMALL BUSINESS FIRMS AND JOINT INDUSTRIAL ENDEAVORS.
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THE SWEDES REACTED AFFIRMATIVELY, BUT NEITHER SIDE GOT VERY SPECIFIC. THE POLES ALSO ASKED ABOUT MORE GOVERNMENT CREDIT GUARANTEES, BUT AGAIN WITHOUT SPECIFICS. THE SWEDES, ACCORDING TO RAPPE, WERE NOT VERY ENCOURAGING. AS FOR THE TRADE AGREEMENT, THE SIGNING WAS STRICTLY CEREMONIAL, SINCE THE DOCUMENT HAD BEEN NEGOTIATED AND INITIALED EARLIER.

9. THE NEUTRON "BOMB" CAME UP TWO OR THREE TIMES. THE POLES SAID THEY WERE QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT THE WEST GERMANS ACQUIRING THE WEAPON, A STEP THEY WOULD HAVE TO EMULATE, THEY SAID. EVERY-TIME THE "BOMB" WAS RAISED, FAELLDIN INSISTED THAT THE ISSUE WENT BEYOND THE AMERICAN NEUTRON DEVICE AND INCLUDED THE PROLIFERATION OF ALL WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, INCLUDING "MOBILE ONES."
(COMMENT: RAPPE SAID THIS WAS A VEILED REFERENCE TO SOVIET SUB-MARINES IN THE BALTIC. END COMMENT.) FAELLDIN ALSO CRITICIZED THE GROWTH OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES IN EUROPE.

10. AS AN AMUSING FOOTNOTE ON THE LOGISTICAL SIDE, RAPPE SAID THE POLES WERE QUITE UPSET WHEN THEY LEARNED THAT FAELLDIN PLANNED TO ARRIVE AND LEAVE BY SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL AIRLINER. THIS ENTAILED DEBARKATION OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS PARTY IN THE MILITARY AIRPORT, FROM WHENCE THE LOT JETLINER THEN HAD TO TAXI TO THE CIVILIAN SIDE OF THE AIRPORT WITH ITS REMAINING PASSENGERS. ON DEPARTURE, THE FAREWELL CEREMONY WAS HELD, AS USUAL, AT THE MILITARY AIRPORT, AND THE VISITING SWEDES WERE THEN MOTORCADED TO THE SAS AIRLINER WAITING AT THE CIVILIAN AIRPORT.

11. AMBASSADOR RAPPE ADDED THAT FIVE SWEDISH CITIZENS OF POLISH ORIGIN, WHO EXPECTED TO BE REFUSED ENTRY, FLEW FROM STOCKHOLM TO WARSAW ON THE SAME COMMERCIAL LOT FLIGHT AS THE PRIME MINISTER. ALL FIVE OF THESE VISITORS WERE IMMEDIATELY DETAINED BY POLISH BORDER AUTHORITIES WHEN THEY APPLIED FOR ENTRY AT WARSAW'S
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CIVILIAN AIR TERMINAL. AFTER OVER TWO HOURS OF CONFRONTATION AND NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE DETAINEES AND THE POLISH AUTHORITIES, THREE OF THE FIVE WERE PERMITTED TO ENTER POLAND, WHILE THE REMAINING TWO WERE RETURNED TO SWEDEN ON THE NEXT DEPARTING FLIGHT. SOME MEMBERS OF THE SWEDISH AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS HAD BEEN ADVISED BEFOREHAND THAT THIS ATTEMPT TO ENTER POLAND WOULD BE MADE. THEY THUS WERE IN POSITION AT THE CIVILIAN AIR

TERMINAL TO VIEW THE CONFRONTATION AND, ACCORDINGLY, TO REPORT
ON IT.
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